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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/815,273	03/31/2004	Akira Ito	F-8198	7488
28107	7590	07/27/2005	EXAMINER	
JORDAN AND HAMBURG LLP 122 EAST 42ND STREET SUITE 4000 NEW YORK, NY 10168			LIETO, LOUIS D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1632	

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/815,273	ITO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Louis D. Lieto	1632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-32 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1,3,6,7,9,10,12,13,15,16,18,20,21,25,27,28,30, and 31 drawn to a hyperthermia agent for malignant tumors which comprises cytokine and magnetic fine particles, classified in class 424, subclass 198.1.
- II. Claims 2,3,6,7,9,10,12,13,15,16,18,22,25,27,28,30, and 31 drawn to a hypothermia agent for malignant tumors that comprises a vector into which a cytokine gene is integrated so that the cytokine can be expressed in a malignant tumor cell and magnetic fine particles, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1.
- III. Claims 1,4,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,14,15,17,18,20,21,23,24,26,27,28,29,30, and 32 drawn to a method for using a cytokine for hypothermia treatment of a malignant tumor, classified in class 530, subclass 350.
- IV. Claims 2,4,5,6,8,9,11,12,14,15,17,18,22,23,24,26,27,28,29,30, and 32, drawn to a method of using a cytokine gene in hypothermia treatment of a malignant tumor, classified in class 514, subclass 44.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I, and III are patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons. In the instant case the different invention of group I is drawn to a hyperthermia agent for malignant tumors which comprises cytokine and magnetic fine particles, while the invention of group III is drawn to a method for using a cytokine for hypothermia treatment of a malignant tumor. The

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invention of group I is drawn to a compound comprising a cytokine protein and magnetic fine particles, which is not required for the invention of group III. The invention of group III can be practiced with a cytokine alone and does not need the magnetic fine particles.

Inventions II, and IV are patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons. In the instant case the different invention of group I is drawn to a hypothermia agent for malignant tumors that comprises a vector into which a cytokine gene is integrated so that the cytokine can be expressed in a malignant tumor cell and magnetic fine particles, while the invention of group IV is drawn to a method of using a cytokine gene in hypothermia treatment of a malignant tumor. The invention of group II is drawn to a compound comprising a vector encoding a cytokine and magnetic fine particles, which is not required for the invention of group IV. The invention of group IV can be practiced with a cytokine gene alone and does not need the magnetic fine particles.

Inventions I, III and II,IV are patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons. In the instant case the different inventions of groups I and III are drawn to a protein compound and a method of using a protein, while the inventions of groups II and IV are drawn to a nucleic acid compound and nucleic acid encoding a cytokine gene. The protein of groups I and III is patentably distinct from the inventions of groups II and IV. Neither set of inventions requires the other set in order to be practiced.

Furthermore, searching the inventions of groups I-IV together would impose a serious search burden. In the instant case, the search of a method of treating tumors with cytokines or cytokine genes, and compounds comprising proteins or nucleic acids are not co-extensive. The inventions of groups I-IV have a separate status in the art as shown by their different

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classifications. As such, it would be burdensome to search the inventions of groups I -IV together.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Lou Lieto whose telephone number is (571) 272-2932. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9am-5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Ram Shukla can be reached on (571) 272-0735. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-272-0735. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the PAIR can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.

For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199.

Dr. Louis D. Lieto
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